(b) whether any evaluation of its effects on the groups opting for rehabilitation has been carried out, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) The major recommendations of the Hanumantha Rao Committee (HRC), approved by the Government in regard to rehabilitation of the affected population, *inter-alia*, include revised definition of family so as to make all a major sons and major daughters who attained the age of 21 years, and dependent parent (Mother/Father) of the fully affected entitled land owner, as on 19.07.1990, eligible for ex-gratia payment of 750 days minimum agricultural wage each; grant of house construction assistance to the urban land owner families, linked with the progress of construction and shifting; allotment of one constructed shop to those shop-owners who were not running the shops themselves; recognition of the right of people living in the villages upstream of Tehri reservoir, over the water from Bhagirathi and Bhilangna rivers and tributaries for drinking and irrigation purposes.

Financial implication of the various measures agreed by the Government based on HRC report is Rs. 266.42 crores, and this has increased the total provisions for Rehabilitation measures included in the project estimates from Rs. 596.15 crores to Rs. 862.57 crores (as per December, 1999 price level).

(b) Though no formal evaluation has been carried out, the Government of Uttranchal has informed that the impact has been favourable.

Good-will allowance to the shopkeepers of Tehri Town

†4469. SHRI MANOHAR KANT DHYANI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have paid hefty amounts in form of good-will allowance to the shopkeepers of Tehri town falling in the submerged areas of Tehri Hydro Power Project and as a result of which the outsiders who had taken shops on rent or who were working as hawkers therein have been greatly benefited in comparison to the owners of land and buildings who are in fact original residents and discontentment has grown in them;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether bungling has been committed in this regard and whether the Government will inquire into whole of this episode and provide the benefits of good-will allowances to the owners of the land and buildings as well; and

(c) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) The Government of Uttaranchal, who are handling the rehabilitation and resettlement of the population affected by Tehri Project, have informed that in order to carry out early vacation of Tehri Town, the Government of Uttaranchal, had sanctioned a package of Rs. 15 crores for payment of compensatory grant to the shopkeepers and advocates of Old Tehri Town. The grant amount was in categories ranging from Rs. 1.00 lakh to Rs. 3.00 lakhs, and was paid after demolition or putting seal on the shop. This benefit has not been given to hawkers.

(b) and (c) The Government of Uttaranchal have intimated that only complaints of general nature have been received regarding distribution of this allowance, and no fact of specific bungling has come to notice. In case any such fact comes to their notice, it would be enquired into and those found guilty would be punished and recovery effected from the ineligible recipient. It has further been indicated that owners of the land and buildings are being given House Construction Assistance (HCA) in accordance with their eligibility.

NTPC's proposed Thermal Power Projects

4470. DR. (MS.) P. SELVIE DAS:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether NTPC has proposed to set up a series of new Thermal Power Projects in the country, if so, the details thereof;

(b) if so, whether the State Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and other Southern States have requested the Union Government to set up new power plants in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and other Southern States; and

(c) if so, the action taken by Government in this regard?